



Michigan Department of Community Health, 201 Townsend Street, Lansing, MI 48933

## FLU UPDATES

### 2011-12 Influenza Season and 2012-13 Influenza Vaccine

This week's [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report](#) (MMWR) summarizes the 2011-12 influenza season and reports the recommendations for the components of the 2012-13 Northern Hemisphere influenza vaccine. [In Michigan](#) and throughout the United States, influenza activity occurred at low levels during October through December and increased in January and February before peaking in mid-March. Influenza A (H3N2) viruses predominated nationally and in Michigan, but influenza A (H1N1)pdm09 (pH1N1) and influenza B viruses also circulated widely. This influenza season was mild compared with recent years, with a lower percentage of outpatient visits for influenza-like illness (ILI), lower rates of hospitalizations, and fewer deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza.

### Journal Articles

A University of Michigan [study found that](#) higher levels of perceived stress affected student's influenza-like illness (ILI) symptom reporting but not compliance with preventive measures for reducing transmission of influenza.

### Pregnant Women and Influenza Vaccination

An [Australian study](#) of pregnant women found that 31.3% planned to or had received influenza vaccination in 2011, but only a quarter had received education about influenza. Additionally, only 56.8% of maternity care providers believed pregnant women were at high risk of influenza-related complications, however, 72.9% would recommend influenza vaccination to all pregnant women.

### Influenza News Articles

- [Vaxess wins \\$70G to develop vaccine strip](#)
- [Researchers at Annual Science Fest Hail Universal Vaccines](#)
- [New Top Causes of Death Revealed](#)

Australia and New Zealand:

- [Flu cases double as experts urge vaccination](#)
- [New Form of Flu Might Occur In the Time to Come](#)

### Avian Influenza

On June 4, 2012, [The Public Library of Science](#) published, "Identifying Live Bird Markets with the Potential to Act as Reservoirs of Avian Influenza A (H5N1) Virus: A Survey in Northern Viet Nam and Cambodia."

A study in the [Journal of Clinical Virology](#) assessed the prevalence of avian and swine influenza viruses in US-based bird handlers and estimated their exposure to different orders of wild birds. The study found that though rare, transmission of avian influenza viruses from migratory birds to US-based bird handlers has potentially significant public health and economic consequences.

CIDRAP News Summary: [H5N1 case in Egypt; H5N1 outbreak in China](#)

## FLU RESOURCES

Stay up-to-date with:

MDCH: [www.michigan.gov/flu](http://www.michigan.gov/flu)

CDC: [www.cdc.gov/flu](http://www.cdc.gov/flu)

HHS: [www.flu.gov](http://www.flu.gov)

The May 2012 issue of the [Michigan Immunization Timely Tips](#) (MITT) is now [available](#). This issue includes news about:

- Pertussis-Related Infant Death in Michigan
- International Travelers: Make Sure You've Been Vaccinated Against Measles
- New CDC PSAs & Posters Available, including "[In the battle against whooping cough, she needs more than cute.](#)"
- Recommendations vs. Requirements: What's the Difference?

The CDC posted their [June 2012 E-Brief](#) containing articles on the late influenza season, the Laos seasonal flu vaccination campaign and H3N2 variant influenza cases.

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